

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO NONALIGNED MOVEMENT COLLECTIVE
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
XMT AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221937

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BELGRADE 5720 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO BONN, BUCHAREST
CAIRO, COLOMBO, LONDON, MOSCOW, NEW DELHI, PARIS, USUN NEW YORK
01 SEP 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3720

LIMDIS

E.O 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED RHETORIC

REF: COLOMBO 3239 (NOTAL)

1. WE WISH TO COMMEND GENERALLY EXCELLENT REPORTING FROM
EMBASSY COLOMBO ON RECENTLY CONCLUDED NAC IT PROVIDED US
WITH CLEAR ACCOUNT OF WHAT WAS TRASPIRING BEHIND THE SCENES
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AND BETTER PERSPECTIVE FROM WHICH TO EVALUATE FLOOD OF NEWS

STORIES WITH WHICH YUGOSLAV MEDIA OVERWHELMED US.

2. WE DISAGREE, HOWEVER, WITH OPINION EXPRESSED IN REFTEL THAT "WE SHOULD SWALLOW OUR DISTASTE FOR THIRD WORLD RHETORIC..." IN VIEW OF THE AMOUNT OF RHETORIC THROWN AT US AND ITS CONSTSTENTLY ODIOS NATURE, ESPECIALLY ON THE "SHOPWORN THEMES", WE WOULD NO DOUBT CHOKE TRYING TO SWALLOW OUR DISTASTE, LWT ALONE THE RHETORIC ITSELF. HAVING SEARCHED OUR COLLOETIVE MEMORY FOR CONTRRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NON-ALIGNED, AS A DISTINCT GROUPING, WE ARE FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT TO A DISTURBING DEGREE RHETORIC IS THE VERY SUSTENANCE OF THE MOVEMENT, AND ANTI-US RHETORIC AT THAT.

3. WE APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THERE IS LITTLE HOPE OF OUR PROTESTATIONS CHANGING THE POSITIONS OR RHETORICAL PROPENSITIES OF MANY "LEADERS" OF THE THIRD WORLD. IT SEEMS TO US, HOWEVER. THAT RHETORIC EXERTS A CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE ON HOW CERTAIN OF THE NON-ALIGNED PERCEIVE REALITY, AND, CONSEQUENTLY, ON HOW THEY CONDUCT THEMSELVES. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR FRIENDS WITHIN THE MOVEMENT WOULD BE SORELY DISAPPOINTED WERE WE EVER TO CEASE TO DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THE MOLDY GRUEL SOME WOULD HAVE US SWALLOW IN SILENCE.

4. RHETORIC AFTER ALL IS BUT ANOTHER WORD FOR IDEAS AND HISTORY TELLS US THAT IDEAS UNREBUTTED HAVE A TENDENCY TO BECOME IDEAS ACCEPTED. WE SHOULD, THEN REBUT WITH VIGOR, CALLING ATTENTION TO THE TOTALITARIAN NATURE OF THE REGIMES WHICH SPONSOR MOST OFFENSIVE RHETORIC. THE NON-ALIGNED USE RHETORIC IN PART BECAUSE IT CEMENTS THEIR UNITY, THUS ENCHANCING THIER NEGOTIATING POSITION. WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT OPPOSING OR COUNTERVAILING RHETORIC SIMILARLY SERVES THE DEVELOPED DEMOCRACISE. RHETORIC OR IDEOLOGICAL CONFORTATION IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH A WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO PARTICAL ACCOMMODATIONS INDEED THEY ARE BOTH PART OF A SECOND NEGOTIATING STRATEGY. (FOREIGN MINISTER MINIC RECOGNIZED THIS WHEN HE REPORTEDLY TOLD YUGOSLAV FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS THAT CONFRONTATION AND COOPERATION ARE NOT MUTUALLY INCONSISTENT.) FURTHER-CONFIDENTIAL

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MORE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE THIRD WORLD WHICH ARE RECOMMENDED BY A GOVERNMENT THAT HAS RECOGNIZED AND PURSUED THIER LEGITIMATE IDEOLOGICAL CONCERNS.

5. DEPARTMENT: PLEASE PASS TO OTHER NAC COLLECTIVE POSTS. SLILBERMAN. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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